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Extra Insurance,

Explosion Possible.

and Dr. D. S. FORTIN

WATER HOUR

TOP OF BLOWN

& BOWEN,

Portland, Or.

SALE.

TISH BARK.

BELLA,

the Hudson Bay Co.

at Pearl Harbor

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The Oregonian.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20, 1856.

LABOR ORGANIZATION

Great effort has been made during recent years for the organization of labor. The prime object of the effort is to obtain for labor, through association, the largest possible share of the proceeds of labor. To secure this result is an entirely natural desire on the part of those whose labor and skill in the chief part of their capital stock. It is neither fair nor just that the wage-payers should make excessive profit, while the wage-receivers receive barely enough to support themselves. Labor organization, as a protest against tendencies in this direction, is entitled to fair consideration. Yet we never have been able to see that it has accomplished much in this behalf. There is a powerful and pernicious principle of business that checks the profits of the employer when they tend to excess. This is competition. The tendency of it at all times and in nearly all branches of business is to keep profits down. To this end the competition of employers with each other contributes more than organization does with itself. Employers, in nearly every branch of industry, compete most actively with each other for a market for their products, and the contest between them at all times is far sharper than that between employers and employed. It may be doubted whether a labor organization ever accomplishes much in the matter of securing a larger share of the profits created by labor, but it is certain that competition constantly tends to press those profits down to the smallest practicable margin.

On this subject workingmen often overlook one result of association, or mark it overmuch.

The tendency of association is to equalize the opportunities and powers of all men. In this regard it tends to bring all upon a level. The best intelligence, industry, activity and skill, most, in association, give up some of their natural advantages. Now, the man who is specially intelligent and energetic certainly has a natural right to use his power to the best advantage. The object of any one, indeed, is to increase his own power and influence. But association, however, gives those who possess special power, the check to the competitive effort by which alone one is able to avail himself of the advantages which nature has given him, and it hampers the exercise of those activities of mind and body by which they who possess such abilities to high a degree may hope to advance themselves. Moreover, the tendency of men to depend on their fellows in the mass instead of on themselves, is a great hindrance to individual effort. Men, too, who can accomplish little except as they may be able to exert an individuality for themselves and secure advancement above the crowd. By dependence on association they lean on those above whom competition they must rise, if they are ever to accomplish important things.

It seems to us an unfortunate result of this association that it tends to sink the individual into the mass. This is true of the subject in worth of all who are interested in the welfare of society, and especially in all who must depend on their labor under the guise of independent contractors. For present, future advancement and real independence, in every section, employment in business, is the prime necessity of advancement distinction and prosperity. To get clear of the crowd, the intelligent and energetic man cannot afford to sink his individuality or to hamper his powers. If he does he cannot rise.

THE WALLA WALLA MEETING

The meeting is to be held at the hotel, and is adopted at the annual meeting held at Walla Walla on Saturday, and which was its previous document. The case is like that presented in dynastic disputes, where no one man can tell who has the legitimate sovereign and which the pretender. We had supposed this Walla Walla meeting was settled yesterday. I will be remembered that on Sunday we published what purported to be a resolution adopted at the Walla Walla meeting. On Monday a duplicate was issued by well known leaders of the Walla Walla movement. Another resolution was also issued, and another resolution was the other?

New York papers say that sales of wheat at the Produce Exchange of that city by speculators in 1855 aggregated \$100,000,000 (ushered in)

an amount more than three times the average crop of the United States during the past two years. At the same time, the sales of wheat were even greater than in 1855. Very probably, in each bushel of wheat grown in the United States, there is more or less of foreign wheat.

The esteemed Standard enunciates a certain new demand, which has been a constant demand of the party next door to us for three years. The leader of this party, who has himself been a democrat only a very little time, ought to perceive how in such a remark he is casting a slur upon himself. During all the years while this democratic party was pursuing the path of patriotism, his present eloquent was benignant, unpretentious, upright and, above all, black as black could be. If the one who was the patriot what was the other?

THE TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE

RAILROAD WARFARE

OREGON, Jan. 18.—The house took up the St. Louis bill to appropriate \$100,000 for a railroad from the Columbia to the coast, and passed it on to the Senate.

The present system is the most practical, correct and convenient method of getting the money into the treasury of the territory and of the country therein, in which railroads are to be built, and the most economical way of getting another mode of taxation hereafter in force in this territory will be to have revenue will be largely increased by the sale of roads and increased earnings of the several railroads and in consequence of the increased percentage rate of interest.

The bill, introduced in the legislature, demands that to support a bill to regulate franchises and taxes on transportation, there was a motion to amend and motion to adjourn an irregular session.

Thereupon there was a motion to adjourn until next June the democratic party would go on just before finalizing how great was the loss.

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